What to do if your child is ill

Should your child be too ill to be present at school, **please call the school (use option 2) before 8.30am to notify us of the situation.** If leaving a voicemail, please state your child's name, class and the reason for their absence. You can also email the school office at pupilabsence@ajs.education or you can log the absence on the Arbor app. If we are not contacted then sometime during that day you will be contacted for a reason.

If your child has been prescribed a form of antibiotic to be taken 4 times a day, please ensure your child's name is clearly on the medication and bring it to the office, complete a medicine permission form and we will administer the medicine as required around 12 noon. Please make sure all medication comes into school this way, even such items as throat sweets. This is to ensure that all children are kept safe. Obviously if a child deteriorates whilst at school we will always ring home for them to be collected. Please remember it is your duty as a parent to make sure all medication that you send into school especially inhalers are in date. If your child has asthma please give a pump to your child's class teacher and complete the school asthma card form.

Medical appointments

Please try and make all dentist and doctors appointments outside school hours. However, if this is not possible, please ensure your child attends school for both registration times to avoid reported absence and is in school before and after the scheduled appointment.

Guidelines on illness and infection control in schools

Recommended period to be kept away from school:

- Chicken Pox: until all blisters have crusted over. This is usually 5 days after the spots appeared.
- Conjunctivitis: None as long as eyes are not weeping and treatment has started.
- Diarrhoea and/or vomiting: 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.
- Diphtheria: Exclusion is essential. Always consult with your local HPT
- Glandular fever: none
- Hand, foot and mouth: none as long as your child is feeling fine.
- Head lice: none (see below on prevention and treatment)
- Hepatitis A: Exclude until seven days after onset of jaundice (or seven days after symptom onset if no jaundice)
- Hepatitis B and C: none
- Impetigo: Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
- Measles: four days from onset of rash.
- Meningococcal meningitis/septicaemia: until recovered.
- Meningitis due to other bacteria: until recovered.
- Meningitis (viral): none
- Mumps: Exclude child for five days after onset of swelling.

- Ringworm: exclusion not usually required. Treatment is needed.
- Rubella (German measles): four days from onset of rash.
- Scabies: children can return after first treatment.
- Scarlet Fever: Children can return 24 hours after starting appropriate antibiotic treatment.
- Slapped cheek: None (once rash has developed)
- Shingles: Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered (can cause chickenpox in those who are not immune, i.e. haven't had chickenpox)
- Threadworm: none
- Tonsillitis: none. There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need an antibiotics
- Tuberculosis: Always consult your local PHE centre.
- Whooping cough: 48hrs from starting antibiotic treatment, or 3 weeks from the onset of the cough if no antibiotic treatment is prescribed.

Head lice

We recommend that you get in the habit of checking your child's hair regularly for head lice and eggs. Unfortunately at some time or another most children will catch head lice and the key is to catch them early to prevent a full epidemic. Detection combing in the best way of finding out if there is an active head lice infestation. Using a fine toothed head lice comb and working in small handfuls of hair at a time is the best way to do this. Usually head lice can be treated with lotions, sprays, shampoos etc specially formulated for head lice. However these must be used as the instructions suggest and the treatment completed accordingly. Please note that Pharmacy First schemes with your local chemist can provide head lice treatments free of charge.

If you are ever in doubt about any illness your child may be suffering from, please use the NHS guidance by clicking this link https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/